



Connectivity Advisory Panel
Kickoff Meeting
February 2022

Agenda | Kickoff discussion

- 1 **Overview:** Panel purpose, member introductions, rules of engagement (30 min)
- 2 **Context:** Funding to date, landscape and where SPARK suggests we focus (15 min)
- 3 **Background:** Overview of State's broadband strategy (30 min)
- 4 **Funding:** Landscape of funding sources (15 min)
- 5 **Review:** What to expect moving forward, homework (15 min)

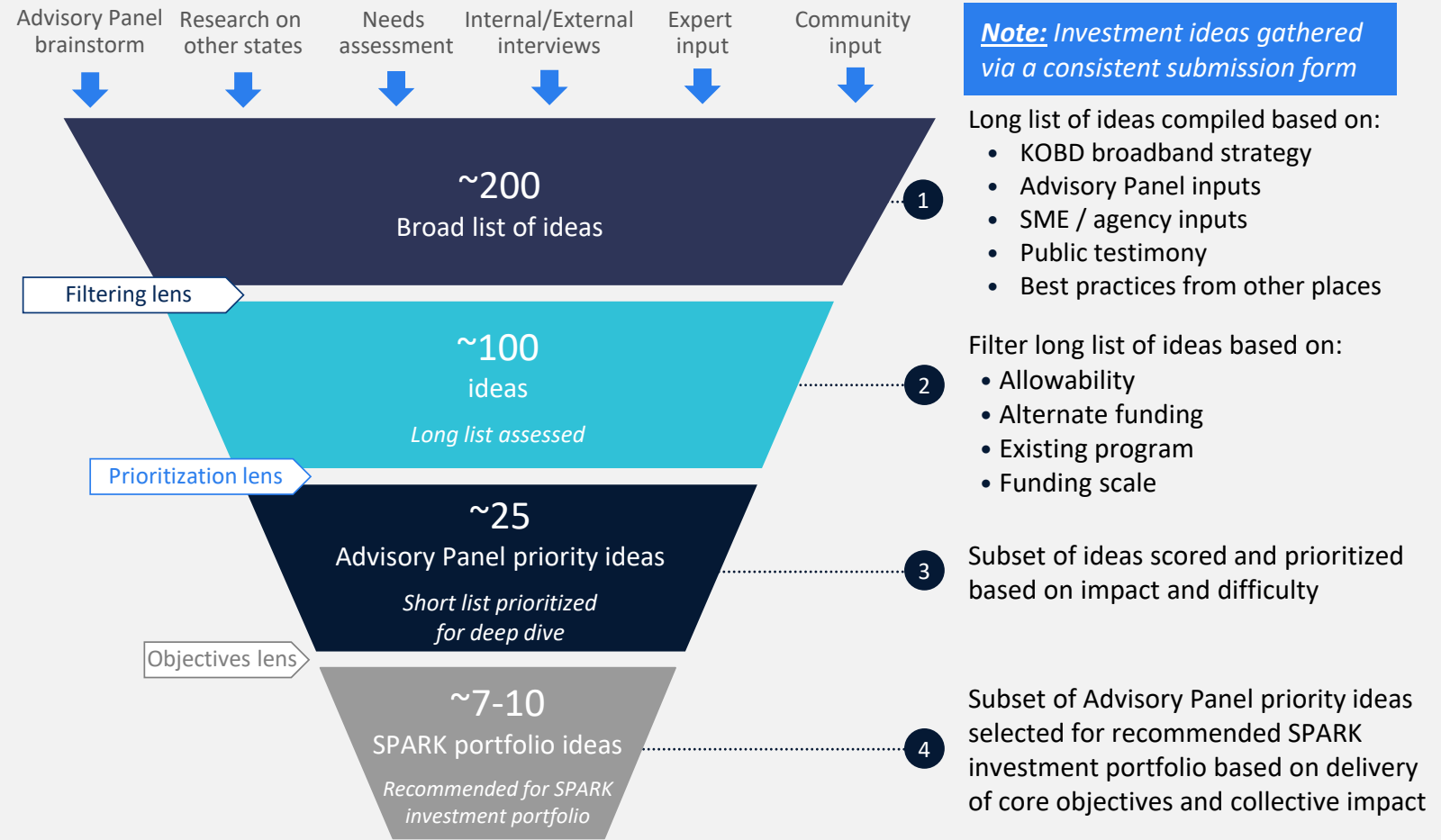
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Filtering process informed by existing KOBD broadband strategy

Panel objectives

- Understand critical needs in connectivity; surface opportunities for impact
- Evaluate & prioritize broadband strategy initiatives
- Prepare recommended portfolio for SPARK review





Guiding principles for SPARK and investment of ARPA funds

*To inform evaluation criteria of policies,
investments, and initiatives*

- **Prioritize sustainable programs & investments** through one-time use of funds vs substantial expansion of existing services
- **Combine with / leverage local and agency funds** to maximize use of discretionary funds
- **Foster long-term systemic impact** for Kansans
- **Consider equitable opportunities** and outcomes
- **Enable flexibility within investment strategies** (e.g., in case of emerging needs, changing federal landscape)
- **Ensure results are measurable** to enable tracking & transparency

Connectivity | Advisory Panel members and staff support



Sen. Tom Hawk



Rep. Adam Smith



Daniel Friesen



Sen. Mike Peterson
(Chair)



Stanley Adams
(Vice Chair)



John Parolisi
Project Director



Jeff Wick



Dr. Tiffany Anderson



Ed Taylor



Brian Vulgamore



Paul Truitt



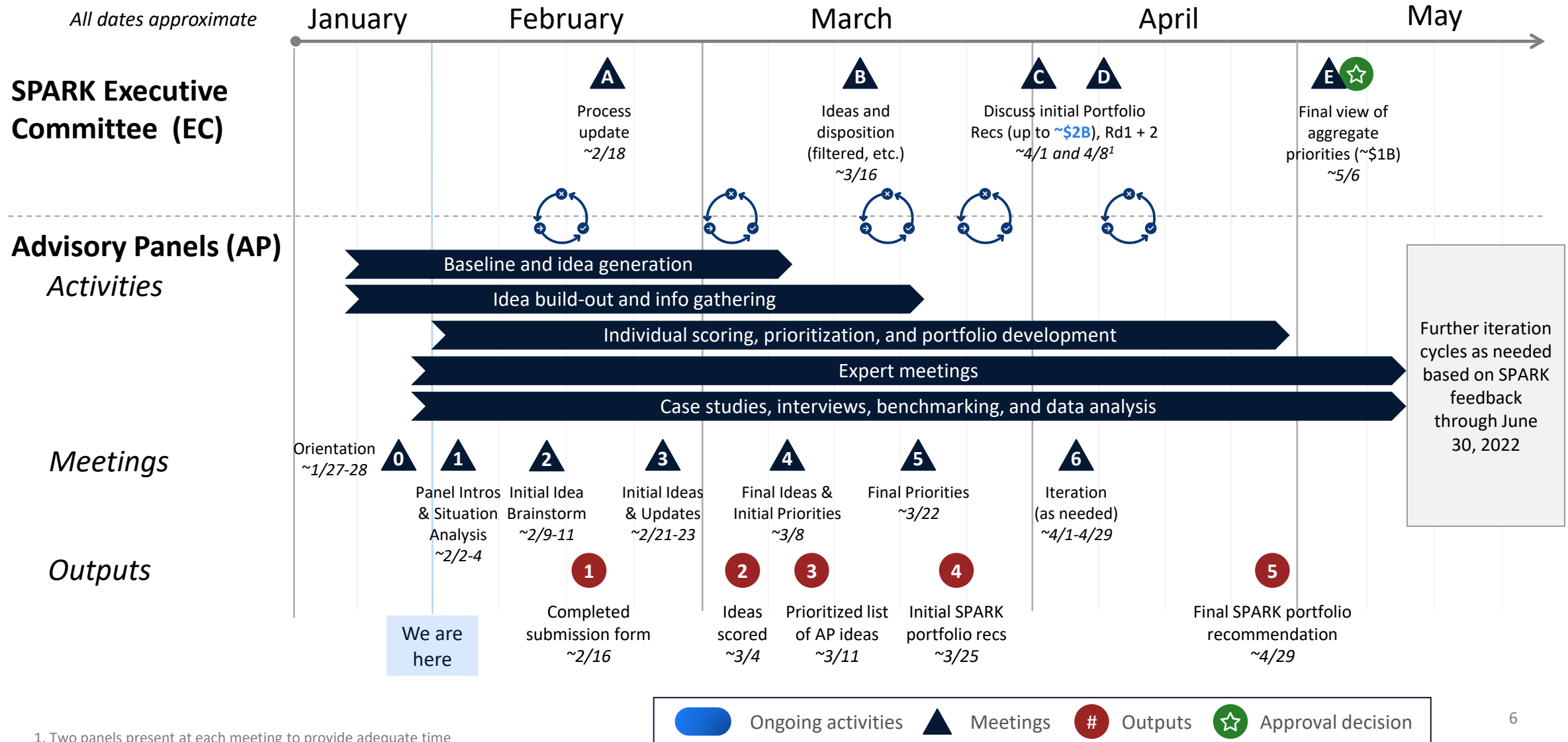
Molly Kocour Boyle

Additional support staff

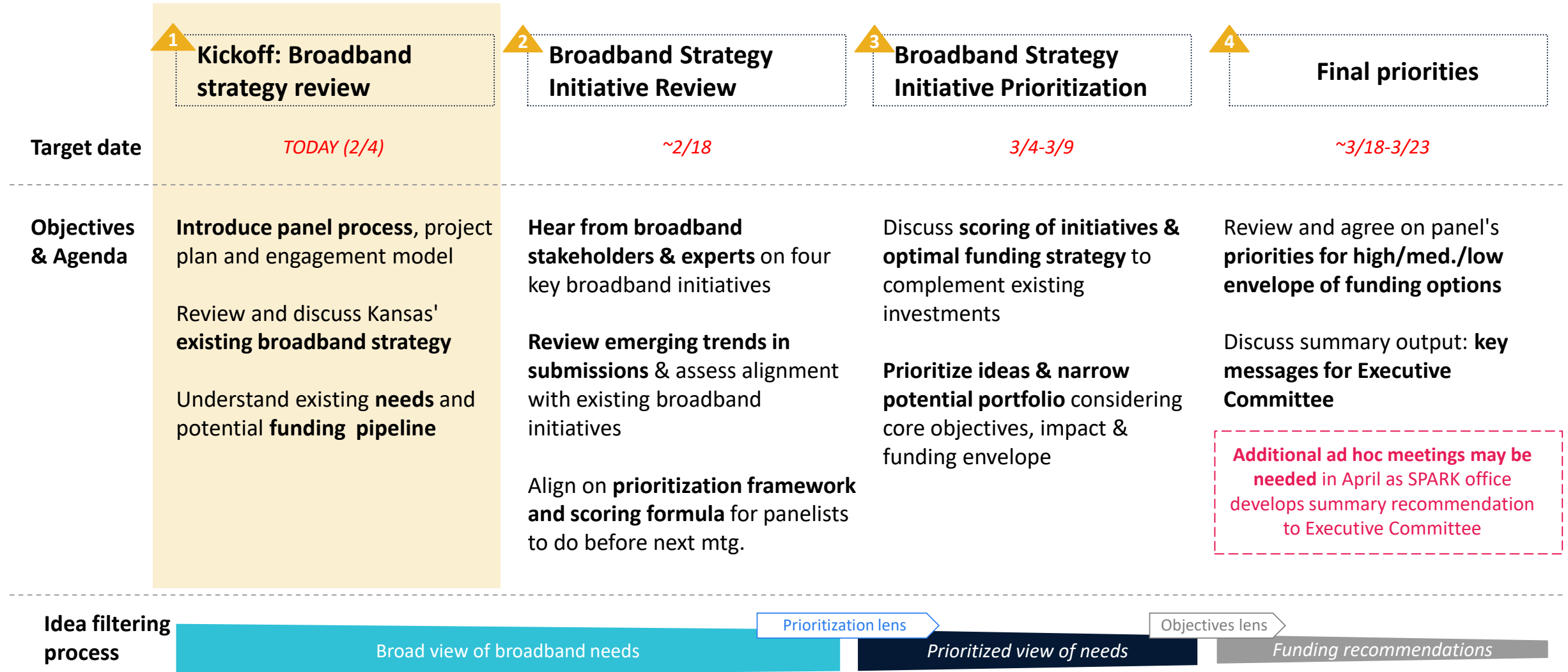
- **RO/ State agency** staff (Alicia Johnson-Turner) supports overall SPARK process management, including communications & coordination with agencies
- **KLRD** staff (Victoria Potts & Heather O'Hara) provide additional research on submitted ideas, compile information, share legislative developments
- **Consulting** staff (WOB – Brad Gair, Dick Price; BCG – Claire Jadulang and Cody Storm) support meeting materials development, organize submitted ideas, provide research and analytical support, and support scoring & prioritization

DRAFT: To be validated

Proposed timeline for SPARK investment approval process



Connectivity | We anticipate 4 meetings to reach a final recommendation



This new process that may present unique "pressure points" to navigate



Key considerations for SPARK process

The SPARK process may present "pressure points" we will need to navigate together:

- Learning curve to set-up and run new process at an accelerated pace
- New submission process to solicit ideas from the public, on an abbreviated timeline
- Conflicting schedules that may prevent panelists from attending every meeting¹
- Need for consensus across four panel recommendations for final recommendation



Implications for Connectivity panel

Each panel will face additional, unique pressure points based on its topic(s) and context:

- KOBD has a strategy as a basis for this panel's work
- Other confirmed and pending federal funding can cover part of broadband need alongside SPARK funds (the focus of this Advisory Panel)
- Panelists have been selected for their expertise, not to represent their specific organizations or projects
- The purpose of this panel is to recommend programmatic direction for SFRF funds, not to advocate for specific projects or application criteria



1. All meetings will be recorded and available to view after the meeting

Advisory panel rules of engagement



Time Commitment

- Ask for time **split between twice-monthly meetings** (2-4 hr/mo.) and **independent thinking & preparation work** (1-3 hr/wk.)
- While aim is to maximize attendance, expect that **panelists watch publicly streamed recordings** if a session is missed



Participation

- Panelists should come to meetings **ready to engage & collaborate**
- To promote dialogue, panelists should **identify themselves to the panel each time they speak**
- Panelists **flag conflicts of interest** regarding ideas considered for funding and **abstain from voting**



Support

- Panelists **ask for and utilize support** from the Recovery Office and KLRD to support data-driven decision making
- Panelists **take advantage of multiple avenues for input** (e.g., meeting chat, live conversation, material review)
- Panelists can **proactively direct questions** to SPARKTaskForce@ks.gov

Agenda | Kickoff discussion

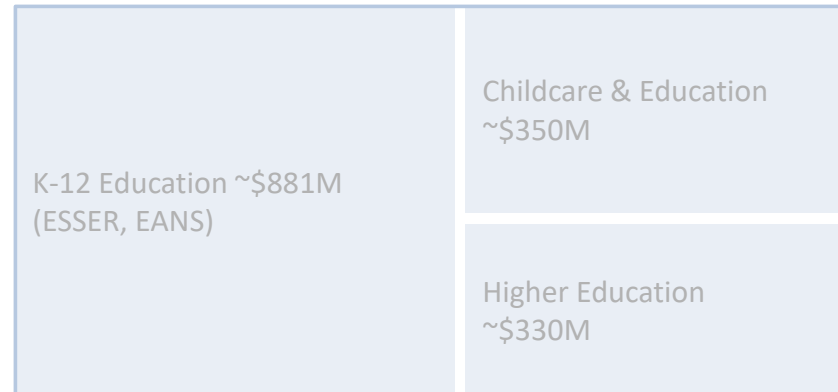
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American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Allocations as of January 2022

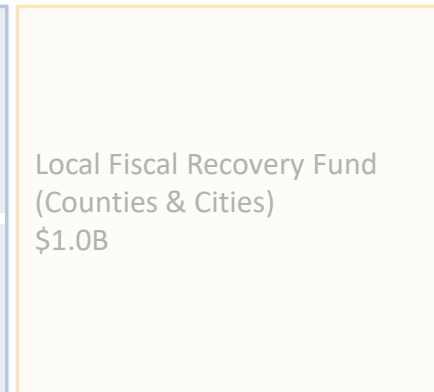
Direct Payments¹ (e.g., economic impact payments) ~\$3.5B

Focus of 2021/2022 SPARK

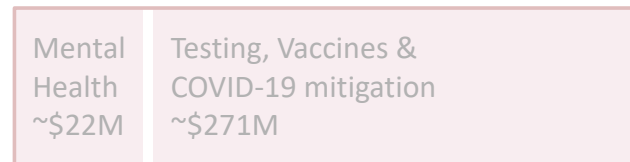
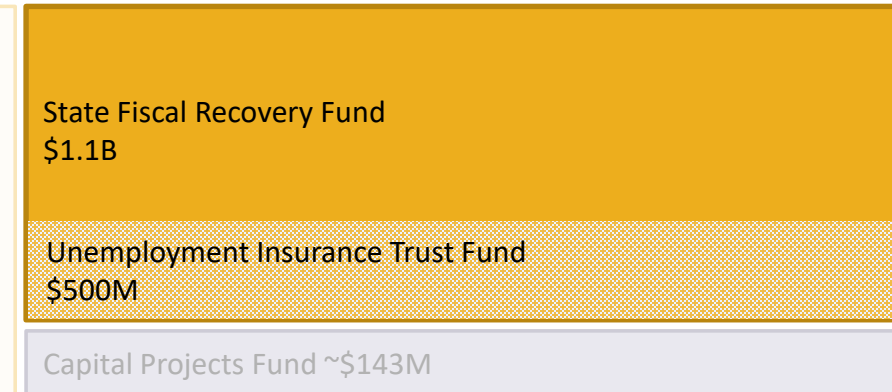
Education and Childcare ~\$1.6B



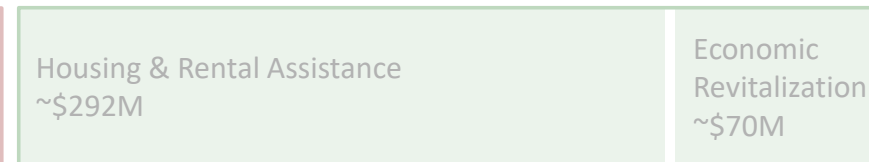
Local ~\$1.0B



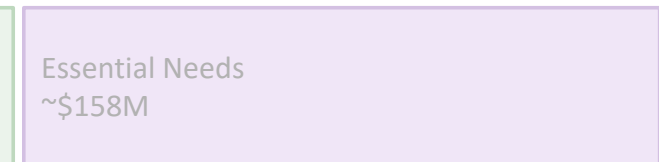
State ~\$1.6B



Health ~\$293M



Housing and Economic Revitalization ~\$362M

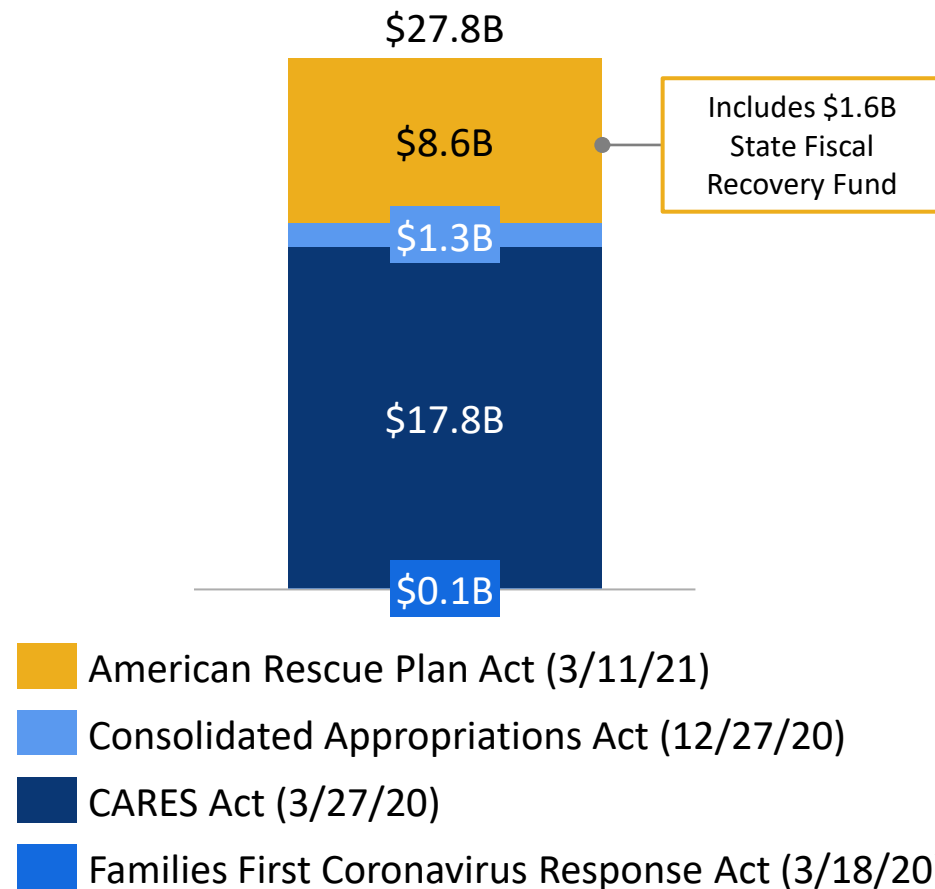


Essential Needs ~\$158M

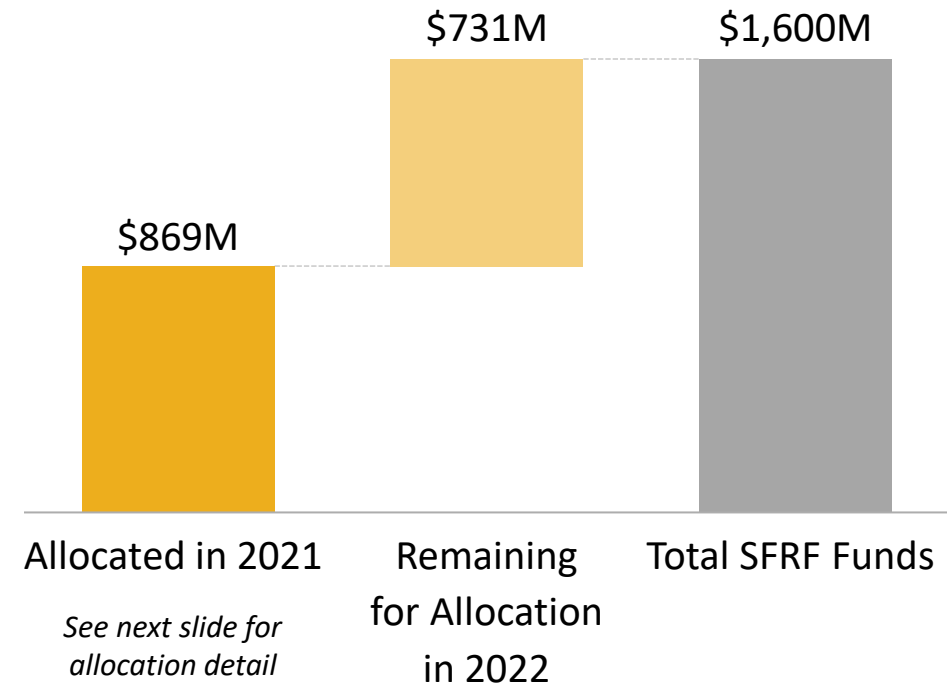
1. Direct Payments estimate includes only Economic Impact Payments (~\$3.3B est. to KS); additional aid expected through Child Tax Credit (~\$1-2B est. to KS; 652,000 children will receive credit), UI Benefits (\$ TBD); Food Insecurity (~\$23M est. to KS) includes increased SNAP benefits to Sep. 30 and WIC vouchers for 4 months; Small Business Relief (~\$450-850M+ est. to KS pro rata) through competitive grant programs (e.g., PPP, Restaurant Revitalization Fund, Shuttered Venue Operator Grants) Source: American Rescue Plan Act (H.R. 1319), Government Financial Officers Association

SPARK focused on making integrated, efficient allocation decisions for remaining SFRF funds in 2022

Kansas has received nearly \$28B in federal COVID-19 relief funds since March 2020



ARPA includes the \$1.6B State Fiscal Recovery Fund, of which \$731M remains for allocation

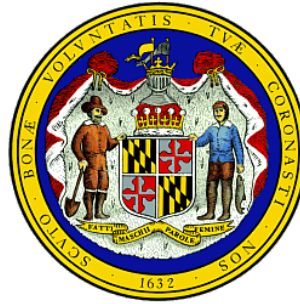


States across the US have funded broadband connectivity initiatives with SFRF funds



Virginia

VA invested **\$479M¹** into its Virginia Telecommunications Initiative (VATI) to extend broadband service to currently unserved areas



Maryland

MD invested **\$214M²** to support broadband infrastructure and deployment to unserved households



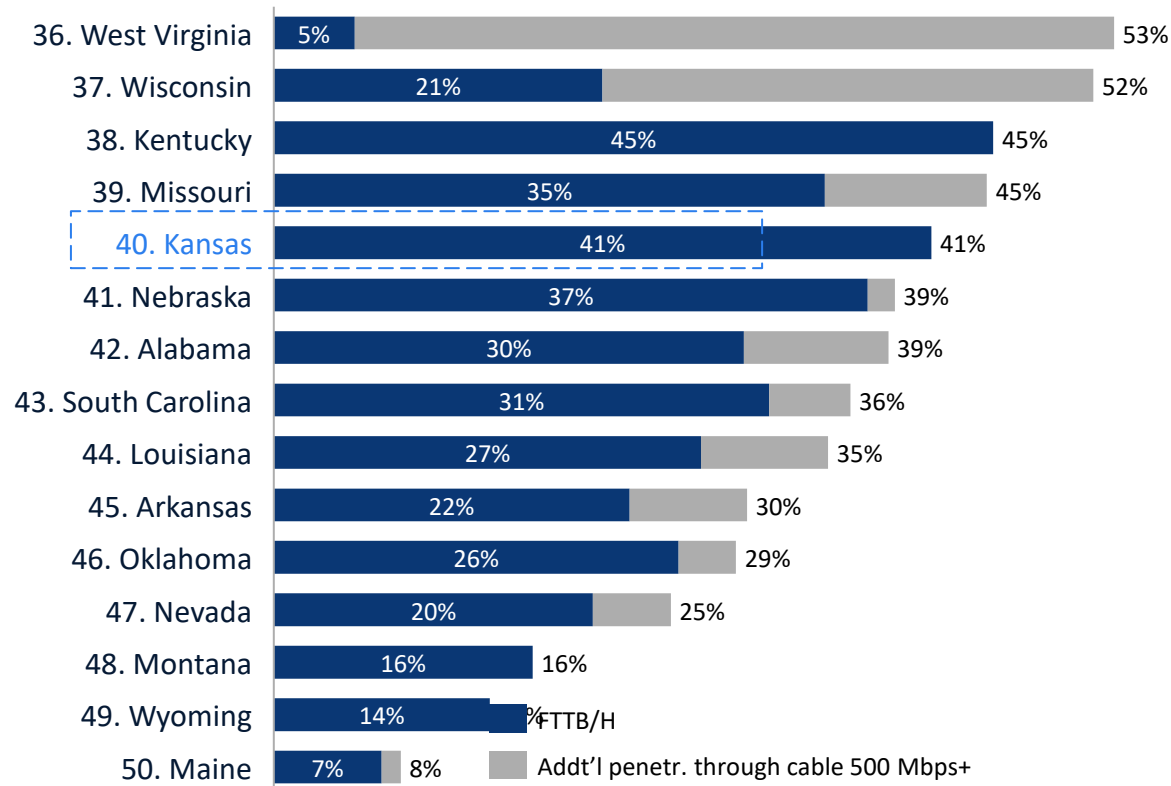
Utah

UT invested **\$10M²** to expand reliable and affordable fiber, broadband and WiFi access for rural Utahns in unserved & underserved areas

Kansas's lagging broadband footprint and high connectivity costs show need for investment

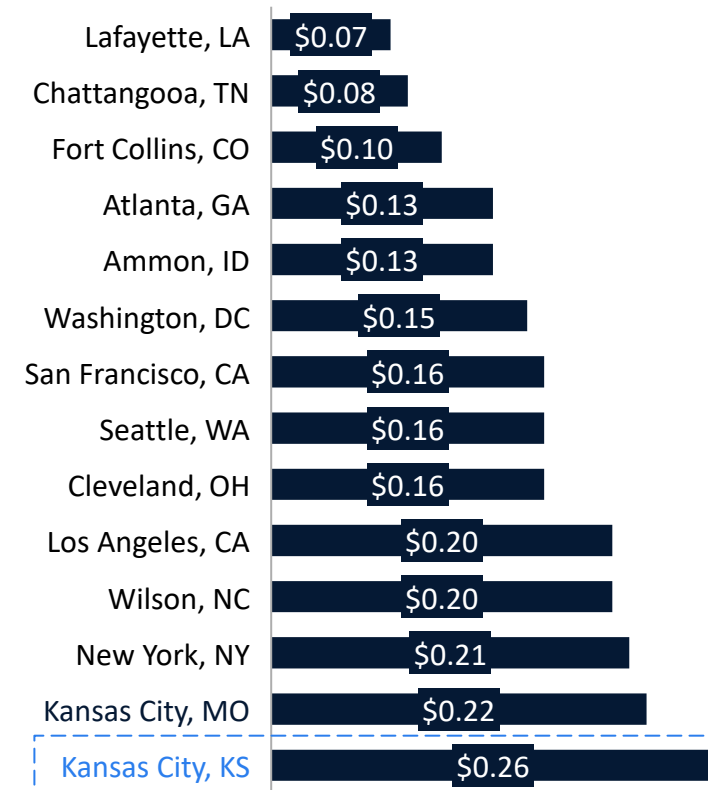
Kansas ranks 40th in broadband coverage

Bottom 15 states - Coverage by FTTB/H & cable (500 Mbps+) in %; 2019/2020





Kansas has some of the highest connectivity costs

Cost of Connectivity: Based on Cost per Mbps



Note: Penetration in % of population with access; 500 Mbps assumed to be wired technology; Totals represent the greater of 500Mbps and FTTB/H penetration; Where penetration of 500 Mbps is greater than that of FTTB/H, the "add'l penetration through cable 500 Mbps" (gray bar) is calculated as net difference. Study collected home internet plans available from provider websites across 28 cities, from June 2019 to May 2020. Source: Data on penetration of 500 Mbps+ published Dec-20; Data on penetration of FTTB/H published Mar-21; BroadbandNow, New America State of Broadband 2020 Report. BCG experts, BCG analysis;

Each advisory panel has priority outcomes

	Economic revitalization	Health and education	Connectivity	Efficiency and Modernization
 Core focus Primary focus at this time	Economic recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support for hard hit sectors and ensure resiliency 	Essential needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrap around services Food and nutrition Public safety/first responders 	Connectivity expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical infrastructure Technical support for local governments 	Facilities modernization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building renovations Facilities expansion
	Growth & competitiveness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce development that trains and retains talent Business investments that promote innovation 	Behavioral health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based treatment Healthcare integration and system navigation Retention & recruitment for behavioral health workforce 	Connectivity affordability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal financial support Digital literacy 	Cybersecurity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secure networking equipment Personnel upskilling
 On hold Secondary focus now	Infrastructure quality <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved water and sewer infrastructure Improved housing availability and affordability 	Early education & child care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supportive family services Early childhood health, education, child care Retention & recruitment for educ/childcare workforce 	Sector-specific applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telehealth Digital education 	Statewide networks and IT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> System modernization for programs and services IT systems improvement
	Anticipated future funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation infrastructure (e.g., roads, airports, etc.) 	Areas with other funding sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> K-12 education support Higher education 	Covered by other panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General technical skills development 	Areas with other funding sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI system modernization
	Covered by other panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connectivity infrastructure Health and education workforce supports 	Covered by other panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing construction IT systems improvement Telehealth 	<div> Note: May be overlap with other Advisory Panels on some topic areas (e.g., infrastructure) </div>	

However, Connectivity Advisory Panel has different context than other panels

Topic is more narrow in scope ...

... with substantial targeted funding sources ...

... and a draft strategy already developed

Confidential & Preliminary - Not for Distribution

Non-exhaustive

Overview of proposed topics covered by each advisory panel

	Economic revitalization	Health and education	Connectivity	Efficiency and Modernization
Core focus Primary focus at this time	Economic recovery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support to hard hit sectors (e.g., tourism, hospitality) Emergency programs Growth & competitiveness <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Workforce development, attraction, retention, and participation Business innovation Infrastructure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water & sewer Housing 	Essential needs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wrap around services Food and nutrition Public safety/first responders Behavioral health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community-based treatment Healthcare integration and system navigation Retention & recruitment for behavioral health workforce Early education & child care <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supportive family services Early childhood health, education, child care Retention & recruitment for edu/ childcare workforce 	Connectivity expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical infrastructure Technical support for local governments Connectivity affordability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal financial support Digital literacy Sector-specific applications <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Telehealth Digital education 	Facilities modernization <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building renovations Facilities expansion IT, statewide networks, and cybersecurity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> System modernization for programs and services IT systems improvement Secure networking equipment Personnel upskilling
On hold Secondary focus now	Anticipated future funding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transportation infrastructure (e.g., roads, airports, etc.) Covered by other panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Connectivity infrastructure Health and education workforce supports 	Areas with other funding sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> K-12 education support Higher education Covered by other panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing construction IT systems improvement Telehealth 	Covered by other panels <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General technical skills development 	Areas with other funding sources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UI system modernization Local government investments Public sector workforce, incl. state employees, law enforcement

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-Draft-

Back-up | KOBID developed three investment levels to guide discussion on broadband investment from public and private funding sources

	Programs	Investment Level 1 "\$300M"	Investment Level 2: "\$680-750M"	Investment Level 3 "\$1.3B"
1 Driving Robust Infrastructure	Last Mile	\$200M +120k households and businesses connected	\$500M +280k households and businesses with robust connections	\$900M +600k households and businesses connected, potential for improved service
2 Enabling Kansas Connectivity	Middle Mile	\$50M Limited investment in middle-mile	\$100M Significant investment in middle-mile	\$250M Expanded investment in middle-mile
3 Transformative Applications	Affordability Accelerator	\$20M +100k individuals signed up and receiving vouchers	\$73M +200k individuals signed up and receiving vouchers	\$115M +450k individuals signed up and receiving vouchers
4 Establishing Kansas as a Leader	Digital Literacy Academy	\$5M +100k individuals trained and online	\$18M +200k individuals trained and online	\$30M +450k individuals trained and online
	Connectivity Navigator	\$2M Limited provision of services	\$3M Dedicated resources as proposed in strategy plan	\$5M Potential for expansion of team and resources
	Sector-specific programs	N/A Presumes no direct funding	N/A Presumes no direct funding	N/A Presumes no direct funding
	Comprehensive Data Platform	\$5M 100% coverage of counties; updated collection and integration capabilities	\$5M 100% coverage of counties; updated collection and integration capabilities	\$10M 100% coverage; expanded collection, integration & visualization capabilities
	Community Resource Hub	\$2M Dedicated team and resources as proposed in strategy plan	\$2M Dedicated team and resources as proposed in strategy plan	\$5M Potential for expansion of team and resources
	Building OBD	\$8M Dedicated team as proposed in strategy plan	\$8M Dedicated team as proposed in strategy plan	\$15M Potential for expansion of team and resources

1. Assumes targeting households without access to 100/20 (Broadband Now) for Robust Infrastructure, and 100% of investment second scenario for Kansas Connectivity programs and Data Platform program. 2. Proposed scenarios and calculations provided in backups. 3. Assumes bringing all households/businesses up to 100/100 service. 2.5x increased investment in middle-mile (Robust Infrastructure), Kansas Connectivity programs and Data Platform program, and 2x increase for Establishing KS as a Leader programs. | Source: Broadband Now, Census data, expert interviews, BCG analysis

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Initiative areas include distinct programs that work to comprehensively address Kansas's broadband development gaps

Initiative	Program	Description
1 Driving Robust Infrastructure	Last Mile Connections	Fund community-defined projects through reverse auctions to expand connectivity for targeted areas and priority economic development sectors
	Middle Mile Core	Expand open access to Kansas's core fiber network to drive down operating costs, increase competition, ensure scalability and improve network resiliency
2 Enabling Kansas Connectivity	Affordability Accelerator	Expand availability and uptake of low cost offerings (incl. federal programs) alongside service providers
	Digital Literacy Academy	Develop digital literacy instructional assets for digital skills and support upskilling via a train the trainer model
	Connectivity Navigator	Establish and coordinate organizations to address digital inclusion
3 Transformative Applications	Multiple programs	Support sector leaders in scaling projects that position Kansas at the leading edge in deploying broadband as a competitive advantage (e.g., Telemedicine, Precision Ag, Intelligent Transport, etc.)
4 Establishing Kansas as a Broadband Leader	Data Platform	Build a one-stop, diversified, comprehensive data platform to drive awareness and engagement for all Kansans
	Community Resource Hub	Support local/tribal gov leader capacity building & provide technical assistance for planning/deployment efforts
	Building the OBD	Establish the OBD as a coordinator of broadband efforts across state agencies and equip it to deliver efficient and impactful programs to meet state goals

Initiatives #2,3,4 dependent on initiative #1

Connectivity panel will operate differently than other panels; we will focus on prioritization & funding for the State's broadband strategy

Investment Strategy

How should the four pillars and sub-programs in the KOBD strategy be prioritized based on panel criteria, agency submissions, and public stakeholder submissions?

Draft

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Funding Strategy

Given SPARK guiding principles and allowability under SFRF, what is the ask for SPARK by pillar and/or sub-program?

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This Advisory Panel will help prioritize the State's use of ARPA's SFRF funding for critical broadband initiatives, multiplying the impact of existing funding streams

	SFRF \$500M	CERG \$50M	BPAG \$10M	BAG (21) \$5M	BAG (22) \$5M	NTIA-BIP \$5-14M	CCPF \$103M	IIJA \$100M+	
1 Driving Robust Infrastructure	▲	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Last Mile	▲	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Middle Mile	▲								✓
2 Enabling Kansas Connectivity	▲		✓				✓		
Affordability Accelerator	▲		✓				✓		
Digital Lit. Academy	▲						✓		
Connectivity Navigator	▲							✓	
3 Transformative Applications							✓	✓	✓
Sector programs							✓	✓	✓
4 Establishing Kansas as a Leader							✓	✓	✓
Comp. Data Platform							✓	✓	✓
Resource Hub							✓	✓	✓

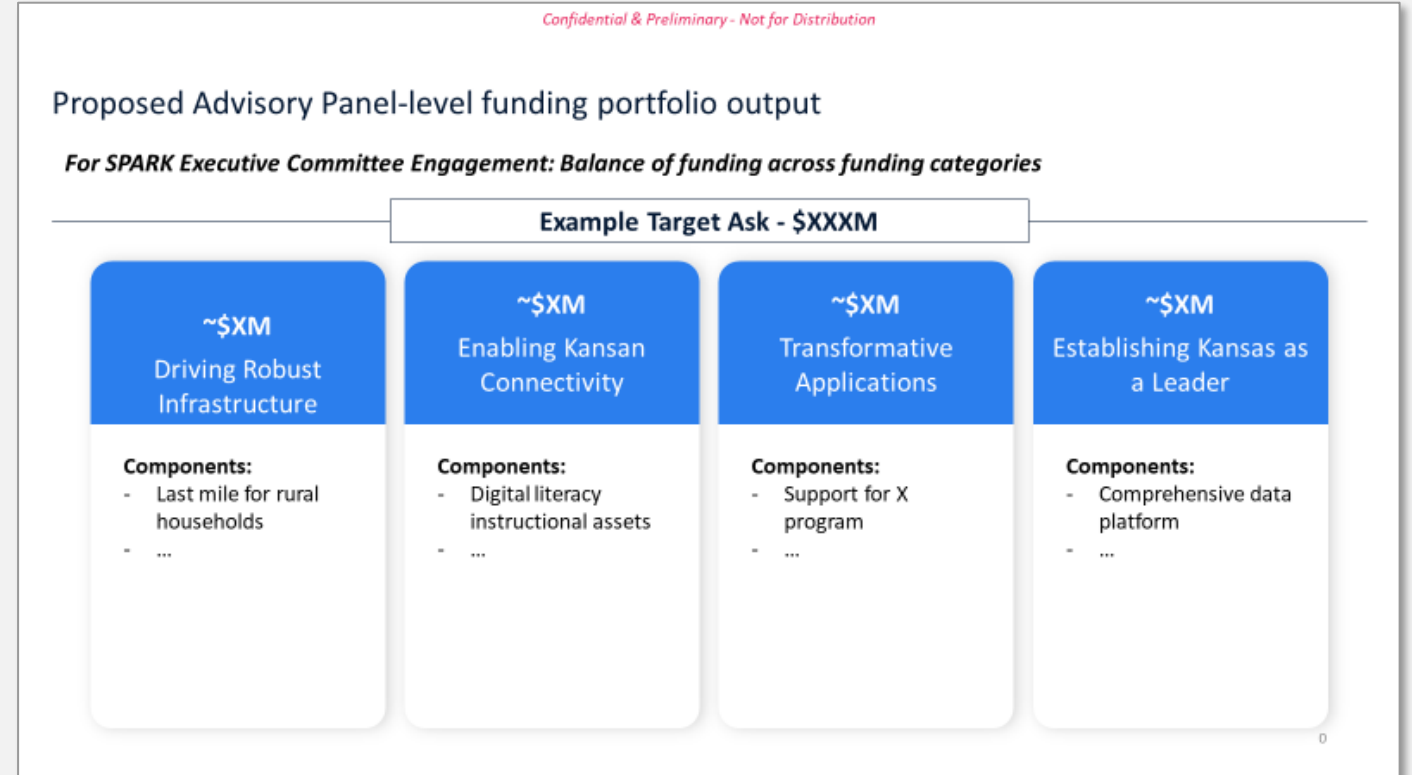
Legend: ▲ Potential focus for SPARK ■ Allowable under SFRF ✓ Directly funded

Note: State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) Connectivity Emergency Response Grant (CERG), Broadband Acceleration Grant (BAG), NTIA-Broadband Infrastructure Program (NTIA-BIP), Coronavirus Capital Project Fund (CCPF), The Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA), Internet Service Provider (ISP)

Connectivity Advisory Panel guidance to SPARK Committee

Final Advisory Panel Output

- **Prioritized list of pillars and/or sub-programs** for SPARK investment based on State's broadband strategy
 - Can prioritize at the pillar or sub-program level, not at the project level
- **Minimum and target funding requests** from SFRF funds by pillar and/or sub-program
 - Can recommend different "mix" of investment based on each amount
 - Prioritization will guide SPARK Committee summary recommendation



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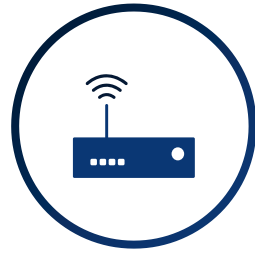
KOBD Mission

The Kansas Office of Broadband Development (KOBD) was established in 2020 to help **ensure all Kansans have the opportunity to live, work, learn, and compete in a global economy** by improving universal access to quality, affordable, and reliable broadband

Stanley Adams, Director, Office of Broadband Development
Stanley.Adams@ks.gov

Melinda Stanley, Broadband Program Manager
Melinda.Stanley@ks.gov

Today's most impactful digital trends are dependent on universal access to broadband



Internet of things/smart sensors



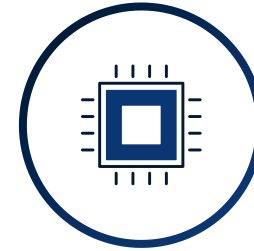
Ubiquitous connectivity



Autonomous transportation



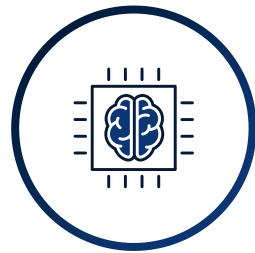
Big data and analytics



Augmented reality



Block chain



AI/Machine learning



Robotics



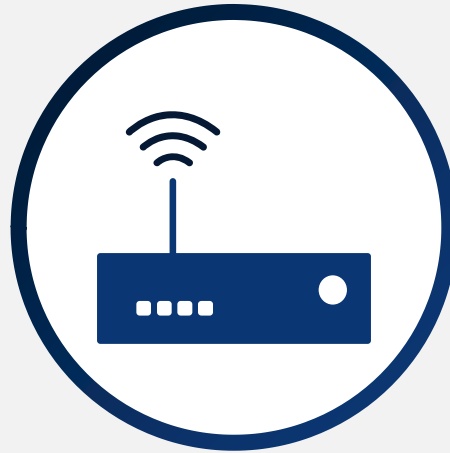
eMarket places

KOBD developed the State's first broadband connectivity strategy through a rigorous stakeholder and data-informed process



Stakeholder input

Demand and supply side



Observed needs

Current and future



Initiatives

To address needs

Overall guidance of diverse Steering Committee



Process informed by stakeholder engagement across sectors and topic areas in Kansas (50+ interviews/focus groups)

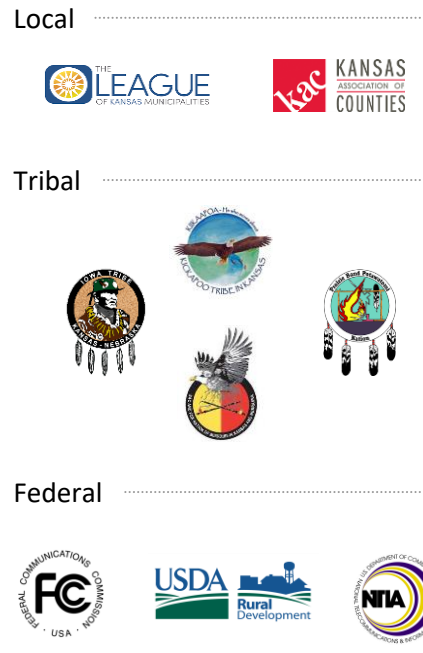
Illustrative - Not Exhaustive



State Government



Other Government



Topic Experts & Partners



Service Providers





Viewpoints from stakeholder engagement interviews on challenges in Kansas today



Broadband has an outsized influence on the economy and there are substantial (if less well-articulated) costs to inaction

Broadband access isn't just a rural or Western Kansas issue

Access is only part of the problem

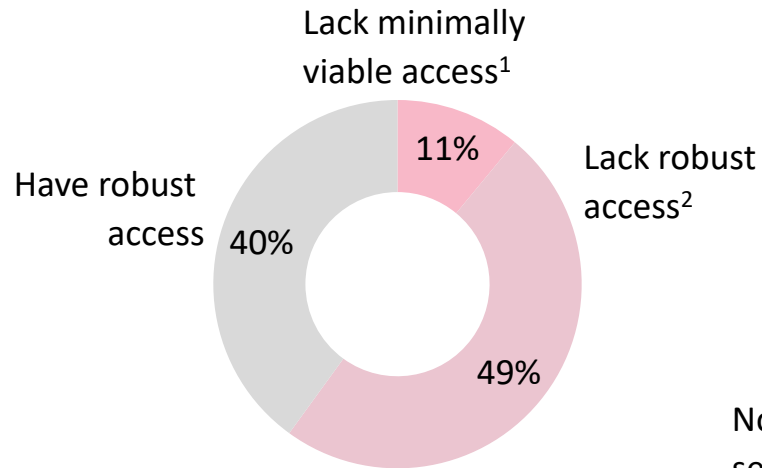
Data Gaps on network coverage and affordability are a challenge to fully understanding and addressing the issue

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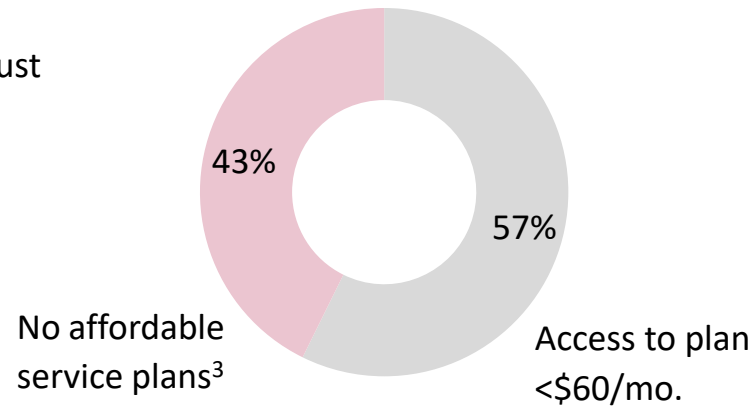
Current-state of connectivity reality across Kansas informed strategy

Access



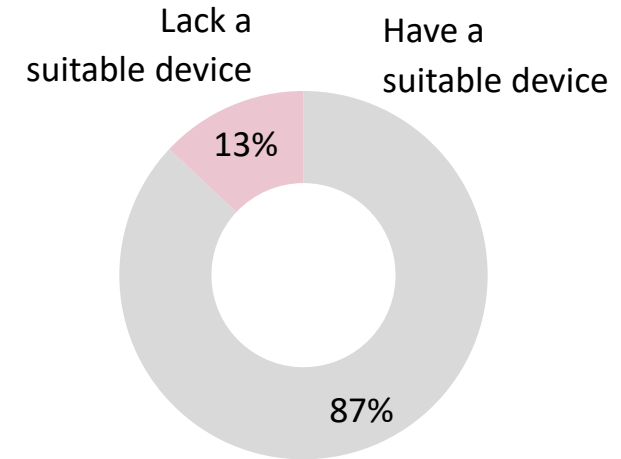
60% of Kansans do not have access to robust broadband service at 100/100 Mbps

Affordability



>40% of Kansans lack access to an affordable service plan (<\$60/mo)

Devices



Over 1 in 8 Kansan households lack a suitable device

1. Minimally viable defined as 25/3 Mbps broadband (downstream/upstream); 2. Robust defined as 100/100 Mbps broadband (downstream/upstream); 3. Affordable defined as <\$60/month for regular standalone internet plans. Data based on most recent provider-reported FCC Form 477s. Where providers have indicated coverage of a census block, analysis assumes availability of national plans and regional plans serving those blocks.

Source: BroadbandNow, American Community Survey.



Strategy developed with four key initiative areas



Driving Robust
Infrastructure



Enabling Kansan
Connectivity



Accelerating
Transformative
Applications of
Broadband



Establishing Kansas
as a Broadband
Leader



- Initiative areas include distinct programs that work to comprehensively address Kansas's broadband development gaps

			Initiatives #2,3,4 dependent on initiative #1
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	Connectivity Navigator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish and coordinate organizations to address digital inclusion 	
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4 Establishing Kansas as a Broadband Leader	Data Platform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build a one-stop, diversified, comprehensive data platform to drive awareness and engagement for all Kansans 	
	Community Resource Hub	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support local/tribal gov leader capacity building & provide technical assistance for planning/deployment efforts 	



New investments will build on recent successful investments in broadband across Kansas

\$50M awarded

Connectivity Emergency
Response Grant (CERG):

Improves broadband services
in underserved and
unserved locations.

Funded through Coronavirus
Relief Fund (CRF).

\$10M awarded

Broadband Partnership
Adoption Grant (BPAG):

Improves internet service
adoption across low-income
households & schools.

Funded through Coronavirus
Relief Fund (CRF).

\$85M over 10 years

Broadband Acceleration
Grant (BAG):

Funds infrastructure projects
to expand broadband in
rural areas.

Funded KDOT's Eisenhower
Legacy Transportation
Program (IKE).

Agenda | Kickoff discussion

- 1 **Overview:** Panel purpose, member introductions, rules of engagement (30 min)
- 2 **Context:** Funding to date, landscape and where SPARK suggests we focus (15 min)
- 3 **Background:** Overview of State's broadband strategy (30 min)
- 4 **Funding:** Landscape of funding sources (15 min)
- 5 **Review:** What to expect moving forward, homework (15 min)

Current and pending funding from additional sources to compliment SPARK's allocation of SFRF funding in broadband



Broadband Expansion Funding

Funded

CERG (\$50M)

BAG 2021 (\$5M)

BAG 2022 (\$5M)

Total: \$60M

Pending Funding

NTIA-BIP (\$5 – \$14M)

CCPF (\$103M)

IIJA (\$100M+)

Total: \$217M¹

Remaining To Be Funded

TBD

Funding Pipeline

1

SFRF – State Fiscal Recovery Funds

Scope of connectivity advisory panel

2

Additional federal grants – Additional funding provided by the government provided outside of current programs

3

State-funded initiatives outside of Federal Grants

4

Co-investment – Matching dollars provided by local governments, non-profit organizations, or internet service providers (ISPs)

1. If all programs are funded from NTIA-BIP submission

Note: Connectivity Emergency Response Grant (CERG), Broadband Acceleration Grant (BAG), NTIA-Broadband Infrastructure Program (NTIA-BIP), Coronavirus Capital Project Fund (CCPF), The Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA), The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), Internet Service Provider (ISP)

This Advisory Panel will help prioritize the State's use of ARPA's SFRF funding for critical broadband initiatives, multiplying the impact of existing funding streams

		SFRF	CERG	BPAG	BAG ('21)	BAG ('22')	NTIA-BIP	CCPF			IIJA		
		\$XXM	\$50M	\$10M	\$5M	\$5M	\$5-14M	\$103M			\$100M+		
								Broadband Infrastructure	Digital Connectivity Technology	BEAD	Digital Equity	Tribal	Middle Mile
1 Driving Robust Infrastructure	Last Mile	▲	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	
	Middle Mile	▲	✓									✓	✓
2 Enabling Kansan Connectivity	Affordability Accelerator	▲		✓					✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Digital Lit. Academy	▲		✓					✓		✓	✓	
	Connectivity Navigator	▲								✓	✓	✓	
3 Transformative Applications	Sector programs							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
4 Establishing Kansas as a Leader	Comp. Data Platform							✓	✓	✓			
	Com. Resource. Hub							✓	✓	✓			

Legend ▲ Potential focus for SPARK ■ Allowable under SFRF ✓ Directly funded

Note: State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) Connectivity Emergency Response Grant (CERG), Broadband Acceleration Grant (BAG), NTIA-Broadband Infrastructure Program (NTIA-BIP), Coronavirus Capital Project Fund (CCPF), The Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA), Internet Service Provider (ISP)

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Idea Submission | Standard submission form ensures submitted ideas have consistent information and may be validated for allowability/alternate funding and eventually prioritized

Standard submission form

State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) - Submission Form for Investment Ideas

This form is intended to be completed by parties interested in submitting investment ideas to the SPARK Advisory Panels, as it pertains to the allocation of Kansas' State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF) as part of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). An overview of the Treasury Department's Final Rule summarizing the major provisions of using SFRF can be found at [this link](#) while the entire Final Rule can be found at [this link](#). Please be aware that there are several other funding sources (e.g., Local Funds, Infrastructure Bill, etc.) with different provisions that may better fit certain investment ideas.

SPARK has established four advisory panels (Economic Revitalization, Health & Education, Connectivity, Efficiency & Modernization) and may consider these submissions as part of the process to determine investment priorities. In making decisions, SPARK will adhere to the following guiding principles:

- Prioritize sustainable programs & investments through one-time use of funds vs. substantial expansion of existing services
- Combine with / leverage local and agency funds to maximize use of discretionary funds
- Foster long-term systemic impact for Kansans
- Consider equitable opportunities and outcomes
- Enable flexibility within investment strategies
- Ensure results are measurable to enable tracking & transparency

Please fill out the information below and submit responses to the questions. The submission form should be completed in its entirety. By providing this information, you acknowledge that we may follow up with you for additional detail. Additional information will not be reviewed unless it is requested.

1. Name / Point of Contact

2. Organization

Note: Ideas collected from State Agencies in 2021 will be updated and resubmitted for consideration



1

Allowability

Checkbox filters ideas by directing proponents to actively pre-screen submission compliance

2

Target Outcomes

Summary of outcomes ensures proposed ideas are result-oriented

3

Impact

Information to understand overall value creation, synergy with other funding, equity considerations, etc.

Reminder: Connectivity panel will operate differently than other panels; we will focus on prioritization & funding for the State's broadband strategy

Investment Strategy

How should the four pillars and sub-programs in the KOBD strategy be prioritized based on panel criteria, agency submissions, and public stakeholder submissions?

Draft

Initiative areas include distinct programs that work to comprehensively address Kansas's broadband development gaps

Initiative	Program	Description
1 Driving Robust Infrastructure	Last Mile Connections	Fund community defined projects through reverse auctions to expand connectivity for targeted areas and priority economic development sectors
	Middle Mile Core	Expand open access to Kansas's core fiber network to drive down operating costs, increase competition, ensure scalability and improve network resiliency
2 Enabling Kansas Connectivity	Affordability Accelerator	Expand availability and uptake of low cost offerings (incl. federal programs) alongside service providers
	Digital Literacy Academy	Develop digital literacy instructional assets for digital skills and support upskilling via a train-the-trainer model
	Connectivity Navigator	Establish and coordinate organizations to address digital inclusion
3 Transformative Applications	Multiple programs	Support sector leaders in scaling projects that position Kansas at the leading edge in deploying broadband as a competitive advantage (e.g., Telemedicine, Precision Ag, Intelligent Transport...)
4 Establishing Kansas as a Broadband Leader	Data Platform	Build a one stop, diversified, comprehensive data platform to drive awareness and engagement for all Kansans
	Community Resource Hub	Support local/tribal gov leader capacity building & provide technical assistance for planning/deployment efforts
	Building the OBD	Establish the OBD as a coordinator of broadband efforts across state agencies and equip it to deliver efficient and impactful programs to meet state goals

Initiatives #2,3,4 dependent on initiative #1

Funding Strategy

Given SPARK guiding principles and allowability under SFRF, what is the ask for SPARK by pillar and/or sub-program?

Confidential & Preliminary - Not for Distribution

This Advisory Panel will help prioritize the State's use of ARPA's SFRF funding for critical broadband initiatives, multiplying the impact of existing funding streams

	SFRF \$500M	CERG \$50M	BIPAG \$10M	BAG (21) \$5M	BAG (22) \$5M	NTIA-BIP \$5-14M	CCPF \$103M	IIJA \$100M+	
1 Driving Robust Infrastructure	▲	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		
Last Mile	▲	✓							
Middle Mile	▲								✓
2 Enabling Kansas Connectivity	▲		✓				✓		✓
Affordability Accelerator	▲		✓				✓		✓
Digital Lit. Academy	▲						✓		✓
Connectivity Navigator	▲							✓	✓
3 Transformative Applications							✓	✓	✓
Sector programs							✓	✓	✓
4 Establishing Kansas as a Leader							✓	✓	✓
Comp. Data Platform							✓	✓	✓
Com. Resource Hub							✓	✓	✓

Legend: ▲ Potential focus for SPARK ■ Allowable under SFRF ✓ Directly funded

Note: State Fiscal Recovery Funds (SFRF), Connectivity Emergency Response Grant (CERG), Broadband Acceleration Grant (BAG), NTIA-Broadband Infrastructure Program (NTIA-BIP), Coronavirus Capital Project Fund (CCPF), The Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA), Internet Service Provider (ISP)





Key resources will be saved in dedicated Microsoft Teams folder for each panel

Each panel will have its own Teams folder with dedicated resources

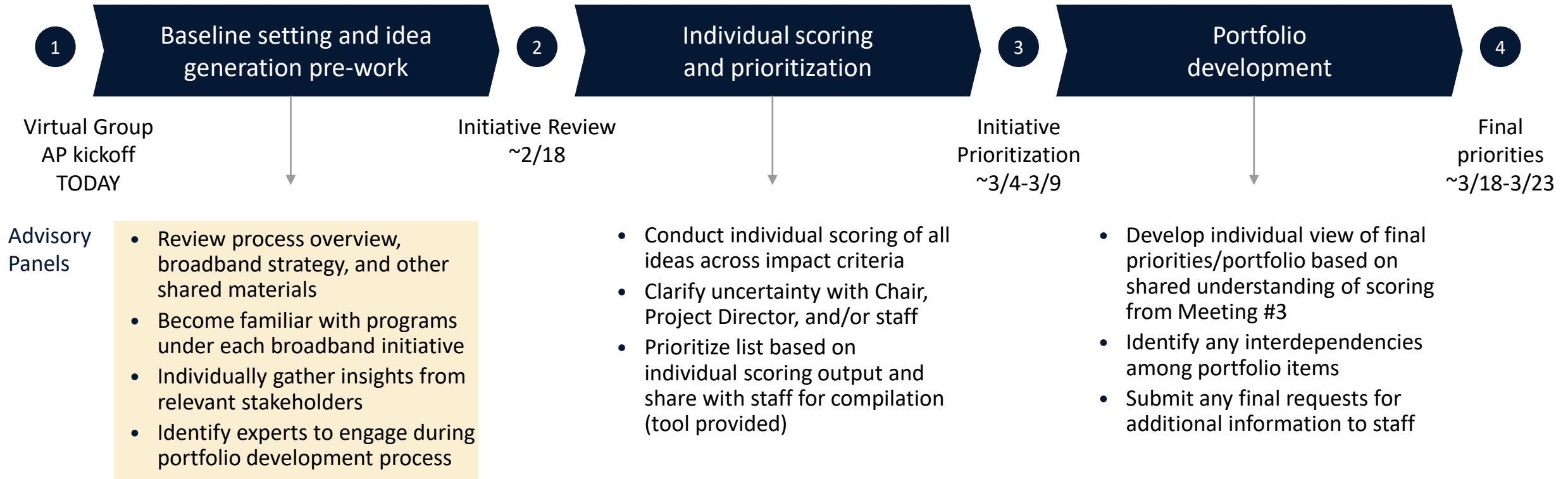
- **01 – Investment Proposal Submissions:** Panel-specific investment proposal submissions (to be updated once submission form closes)
- **02 – AP Member Resources:** Onboarding and pre-read resources
- **03 – Meetings:** Meeting materials and agendas
- **Resources for Advisory Panels:** Additional resources relevant across panels, including daily investment proposal submission updates

More detail on resources & how to use Teams can be found in this [Read Me document](#)

Connectivity Teams Folder

GK	GO KS SPARK	...	Connectivity	
	General			
	Connectivity			Name ▾
	Economic Revitalization			01 - Investment Proposal Submissions
	Efficiency and Modernization			02 - AP Member Resources
	Executive Committee			
	Health and Education			
	Resources for Advisory Panels			03 - Meetings

Homework: Panel engagement between meetings needed to drive process forward



Outputs

1 Completed idea templates

2 Ideas scored

3 Prioritized list of initiatives

4-5 Portfolio recommendation

Look ahead | What to expect in our next meeting and how to prepare

Key topics and logistics for our next meeting

- Meeting Date: ~2/18
- Goal: understand initiatives under existing broadband strategy
- Key topics:
 - Hear from broadband stakeholders & experts on four key broadband initiatives
 - Review emerging trends in submissions & assess alignment with existing broadband initiatives
 - Preview filtering criteria & ideas templates



How to prepare

- Complete meeting [exit survey](#)
- Review process overview, needs assessment, and other shared materials
- Individually brainstorm/ gather ideas from relevant stakeholders, submit via form
- Share ideas for experts to engage during portfolio development process

Share any questions or input with John or SPARKTaskForce <SPARKTaskForce@ks.gov>

Exit survey

To ensure future Panel meetings are successful, please take 5 minutes to complete [this exit survey](#):

- What can we do in to makes these meetings successful?
- What can we help clarify about the Advisory Panel process?
- What topics would be helpful to have an expert perspective on?
- Would you be interested in joining an additional session to review these topics with an expert?
- Do you have any recommendations for experts to consider?
- Anything else you would like to share?

Appendix

Additional KOBD background

Example investments from other states

Additional KOBD background

Establishment and Purpose of KOBD

Recognizing the need for a coordinated, integrated, and strategic approach to the equitable expansion of broadband throughout the state, Governor Laura Kelly issued an Executive Order in October 2020 to formally establish the Kansas Office of Broadband Development (KOBD) within the Department of Commerce.

Broadband Infrastructure

Promoting deployment and access to high-quality broadband infrastructure capable of meeting community needs in unserved and underserved areas.

Broadband Strategy

Supporting broadband planning by promoting local and regional assistance for the private sector, public sector, and cooperative broadband solutions.

Digital Equity, Literacy and Adoption

Promote digital equity and literacy while supporting broadband infrastructure to close the digital divide and advancing public policies



Broadband Resources

Pursuing and leveraging federal sources of broadband funding to achieve state broadband goals

Stakeholder Engagement

Engaging with stakeholders to facilitate communication and make a business case for broadband investment.

Broadband Mapping

Developing and maintaining a broadband map as a platform for data collection to track the availability of broadband services and government investments.

Viewpoints from stakeholder engagement interviews on challenges in Kansas today



Broadband has an outsized influence on the economy and there are substantial (if less well-articulated) costs to inaction



Broadband access isn't just a rural or Western Kansas issue

- Access challenges go beyond rural areas to ex-urban areas and pockets of more heavily populated areas
- The pandemic has increased demand for speed, reliability and capacity



Access is only part of the problem

- Critical to address financial and behavior barriers to gain value from broadband access (e.g., digital literacy)
- Digital divide issues for veterans, seniors, low-income families, rural families, minority communities, populations with disability



Data Gaps on network coverage and affordability are a challenge to fully understanding and addressing the issue

- Crucial to improve data “to raise awareness of adoption disparities”, target programs, & measure progress



Desire for more coordination inside & outside State government, support with federal government relations, and capacity building

- A need to reframe conversation around user needs and “what is important for the state, rather than special interests”; desire to lead planning from the state level to local and regional levels

Kansas Broadband Expansion Program History

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)

1

- [Connectivity Emergency Response Grant \(CERG, \\$50M\)](#): improves broadband services in underserved and unserved locations. KOBD to enable 51,869 new connections with homes, businesses, and community anchor institutions; lay more than 695 miles of fiber, and erect or enable 226 towers for fixed wireless services
- [Broadband Partnership Adoption Grant \(BPAG, \\$10M\)](#): improves internet service adoption across low-income households. KOBD distributed more than 30,000 laptops and tablets to schools, libraries, and households; it also connected nearly 17,000 households through free or discounted broadband services

Kansas Department of Transportation's (KDOT)

2

- Funding provided through the [KDOT's Eisenhower Legacy Transportation Program \(IKE\)](#) –Broadband Acceleration Grant (BAG, \$5M) administered by KOBD:
 - Year 1 (2021): The KOBD is overseeing \$5M in infrastructure projects to expand broadband to more than 2,500 households in rural areas
 - Year 2+ (2022 and beyond): After successful implementation of year 1 Acceleration projects, KOBD preparing to award an incremental \$5M. Pre-award efforts are underway with the application window opened as of 1/11/22

Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 (CAA 21)

3

- [NTIA-Broadband Infrastructure Program \(\\$5M-\\$14M\)](#): supports broadband infrastructure deployment to areas lacking broadband. The KOBD also created the Rural Broadband Deployment Project (RBDP) will bring high-speed broadband to an estimated 1,730 households, 111 businesses, and 16 community anchor institutions in rural parts of the state. Submitted to NTIA on 8/17/21

Future Kansas Broadband Expansion Programs

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)

1

- **Coronavirus Capital Project Fund (\$103M):** funds critical projects directly enabling work, education, and health monitoring, including remote options

The Infrastructure and Investment Jobs Act (IIJA)

2

- **Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment program:** Formula-based grant program for US and territories. BEAD aims to close the access gap for unserved and underserved areas of the country. Each state allocated \$100M+additional funds based on formula.
- **Digital Equity Act (\$2.75B):** Three programs were established for planning, implementation of programs that promote digital equity, support digital inclusion activities, and build capacity related to the adoption of broadband. State award based on formula.
- **Tribal connectivity Technical Amendments:** Furthers current tribal broadband connectivity program by investing an additional \$2B to fund broadband adoption and infrastructure projects. Award based on formula.
- **Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure:** Provides funding to extend middle-mile capacity to reduce the cost of serving unserved and underserved areas and enhance network resilience. Grant will be competitive.

Example investments from other states

Benchmarks | Other states & cities have leveraged SFLRF funds on connectivity projects

State/Local Govt	Category	Project Example	Link
Massachusetts	Broadband	\$100 million to develop broadband internet access <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase broadband internet access to help communities close the digital divide by specifically targeting infrastructure projects to improve service in underserved areas • Provide devices, digital literacy services and internet service plan support to target populations 	MA Recovery Plan Performance Report
Utah	Broadband	\$10 million to expand rural broadband <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand reliable and affordable fiber, broadband and WiFi access for rural Utahns in unserved/underserved areas 	UT Recovery Plan Performance Report
St. Louis	Broadband	\$1.6 million to expand broadband & public wi-fi <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand internet access at public spaces including but not limited to recreation centers and bus stations 	St Louis Recovery Plan Performance Report
Maryland	Broadband	\$214 million on Broadband Programmatic Support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support broadband infrastructure and deployment to unserved households • Provide grants and loans to local governments and private providers for improvements to broadband • Support municipal broadband access in the state • Provide grants for rural broadband programs 	Maryland Recovery Plan Performance Report
Utah	Information Systems	\$55 million to enhance information systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate improvements to Utah's information systems (e.g., enabling cloud infrastructure, providing network security, moving the state data center, improving coordination for data sharing and case management) 	UT Recovery Plan Performance Report
Kansas City, MO	Closing Digital Divide	\$500k on "Last Mile" Broadband Initiative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community improvement activities in the form of broadband investment • Close digital divide and current inequities for low-income families 	Kansas City Recovery Plan Performance Report
Maryland	Closing Digital Divide	\$4 million on bridging the digital divide <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support, train, develop curriculum and disseminate awareness and educational opportunities to bridge the digital divide 	Maryland Recovery Plan Performance Report

